

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the performance of a thorough search. Claims 1, 3-12, and 14-23 are pending in this application.

Claims 1, 3-8, and 11-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,671,063 to Iida (“*Iida*”), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,983,200 to Slotnick (“*Slotnick*”). Claims 9 and 19 stand rejected as being unpatentable over *Iida* and *Slotnick*, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,452,692 to Yacoub (“*Yacoub*”). Claim 10 is rejected as being unpatentable over *Slotnick*, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,823,172 to Forrest (“*Forrest*”). In addition, Claims 3-5 and 17-18 were objected to because of informalities.

In this response, Claims 1, 3, 4, 5 and 11 have been amended. The amendments to the claims are merely to clarify features, and do not require a new search of the prior art. No claims have been canceled. Claims 20-23 have been added.

I. CLAIM OBJECTIONS

In the Office Action, Claims 3-5 and 17-18 were objected to because of alleged informalities. In particular, the Office Action states that “the payment component” in Claims 3-5 should read as “a payment component.” However, Claim 20, upon which Claims 3-5 are now dependent, recites “a payment component” as a component of the printing interface apparatus. The phrase “the payment component” in Claims 3-5 therefore has proper antecedent basis.

The Office Action states that “the wireless component” in Claims 17-18 should read as “a wireless component.” However, independent Claim 12, upon which Claims 17-18 are dependent, recites “a wireless interface component” in the receiving step. This step recites:

receiving over said wireless connection non-print ready electronic document information at a wireless interface component, wherein the wireless interface component is

configured to communicate with one or more wireless devices over a wireless connection.

The phrase “the wireless interface component” in claims 17-18 therefore has proper antecedent basis.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the claims.

II. THE REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 3-12, 14-19 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1, 3-8, 11-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Iida* and *Slotnick*. Claims 9 and 19, dependent on Claims 1 and 12 respectively, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Iida*, *Slotnick* and *Yacoub*. Claim 13 has been previously cancelled. Therefore, this section applies to claims 1, 3-12, and 14-19.

The cited references do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claims 1, 11 and 12.

Representative Claim 1 recites:

a printer interface component that includes a web server application configured to receive non-print ready electronic document information over said wireless connection, wherein said printer interface component is configured to generate a print ready file based on said non-print ready electronic document information

The Office Action asserts that the network facsimile apparatus 201 of *Iida* teaches a web server application configured to receive non-print ready electronic document information. Specifically, Page 3 of the Office Action asserts that Col. 4, lines 35-58 of *Iida* teach this limitation. However, the cited section of *Iida* only teaches that a “file providing section 35 receives a file, whose file request is provided from client machine 202, from file management section 36 to provide to WWW server communication section 31.” *Iida*, Col. 4, lines 48-52. *Iida*

does not teach receiving *non-print ready* document information. On the contrary, *Iida* teaches at Col. 6, lns 18-28:

A printer driver for using the network facsimile apparatus as a printer is installed in advance at client machine 202.... When printer 2 is selected and determine-button 52 is selected, the printer driver for using the network facsimile apparatus as a printer is started.

Iida teaches that the printer driver *on the client machine* is used to generate a print ready file that is sent to the WWW server. In contrast, Claim 1 recites receiving *non-print ready* document information at the web server, and generating a print ready file by the printer interface component. As shown in the embodiment of Fig. 3B, the wireless device 332 does not include a printer driver. Electronic document information sent from the wireless device to the interface box 330 is therefore not print ready. Web server 346 receives the non-print ready electronic document information from the wireless interface 344, and sends the information to the printer driver 350 in the interface box for generation of a print ready file for the printer device 336.

New dependent Claims 21 and 22, dependent on Claims 1 and 12 respectively, further recite that the printer interface component includes a printer driver compatible with the printer device, wherein this printer driver generates the print ready file based on said non-print ready electronic document information received over said wireless connection and communicates the generated print ready file to the printing device.

Iida does not teach or suggest a printer device in the printer interface component (i.e., network facsimile apparatus 201). *Iida* only teaches that a client uses a previously installed printer driver to generate a print ready file. Wireless devices frequently do not have software installed for generating a print ready file (e.g., a printer driver). The claimed printer interface apparatus allows wireless devices that do not have any printer drivers installed, or do not have

the appropriate printer driver for a particular printer installed, to generate hard copies from a printer. The printer interface component includes the necessary printer driver for generating a print ready file. *Iida* does not teach or suggest having printer drivers installed anywhere but on the client, and therefore only clients can generate the printer ready files in *Iida*.

The Office Action further asserts that “network facsimile 201 further includes a storage processing section 17 for converting the incoming print data into TIFF format, col. 7, lines 10-15, and inherently, before printing any received print data, the facsimile must convert the received data into printable color space and format.” This is an incorrect interpretation of *Iida*. The cited section *Iida* teaches that the network facsimile device has a storage processing section for storing transmitted data.

As shown in FIG 8 of *Iida*, and described at Col. 8, lns 31-33, a document is “transmitted by the printer driver for the network facsimile apparatus from client machine 202 and stored in external storage 4.” The document transmitted by the printer driver is of course print ready. Step ST703 of FIG. 8 shows that the document received from the printer driver is converted into TIFF for storage. Converting a print ready document from a printer driver into a TIFF file does not teach generating a print ready file based on said non-print ready electronic document information, as required by Claim 1.

In addition to the above-discussed limitations, each of the dependent claims 3-9 and 14-22 introduces one or more additional limitations that independently render it patentable. However, in view of the patentability of the independent claims, the dependent claims are not further argued at this time to expedite prosecution.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 3-9, 11, 12 and 14-22 are patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the

rejection of Claims 1, 3-9, 11, 12 and 14-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and allowance of Claims 20-22, is respectfully requested.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIM 10 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Slotnick* and *Forrest*. However, the cited references do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of Claim 10.

Claim 10 recites:

a wireless communication component that is configured with a receiving component for receiving electronic document information over a wireless connection... wherein the wireless communication component is shielded to limit reception of said electronic document information *from only those devices located substantially in front of the wireless communication component*.

The Office Action asserts that Col. 2, lines 1-5 and Col. 6, lines 1-15 of *Forrest* teaches “a method for shielding a receiving component to limit reception to only those devices located substantially in front of the wireless communication component.” However, *Forrest* only teaches that a communication absorbing shield may be used in an ATM. Specifically, Col. 2, lines 1-5 of *Forrest* teaches:

Preferably, the SST includes a communication absorbing shield to reduce the amount of wireless communication signals that are transmitted to outside the SST. The shield may be applied to internal walls of the SST.

Col. 6, lines 8-11 of *Forrest* teaches:

A communication absorbing shield may be used to reduce the magnitude of any signals that are transmitted outside the ATM.

These cited sections only teach that a communication absorbing shield may be used to reduce the magnitude of the signals that are transmitted outside the ATM, and that the shield

may be applied to internal walls of the ATM. In contrast, Claim 10 recites a wireless communication component that is shielded to limit reception of said electronic document information *from only those devices located substantially in front* of the wireless communication component. *Forrest* does not teach any directional shielding. The absorbing shield in *Forrest* is *internal*, and used to reduce signals going *outside* the ATM. The absorbing shield in *Forrest* cannot affect the *direction* from which signals are *received*.

The shield of one embodiment of the claimed invention is shown in FIG. 4A. As shown, the shield 406 surrounds the top of the interface box 402, thereby limiting the direction in which the RF signals can be received. In particular, the shield prevents reception of signals from wireless devices that are not substantially in front of the interface box.

New dependent claim 23, dependent on claim 10, further recites that the wireless communication component includes a top side that is surrounded by a shield, and the shield limits reception of the receiving component to those devices that are located substantially in front of the wireless communication component.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 10 and 23 are patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 10, and allowance of Claim 23, is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and the issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

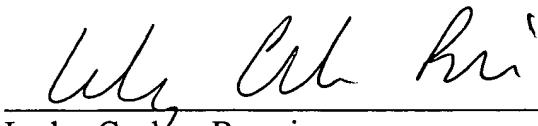
AMENDMENT

Ser. No. 09/747,650 filed December 22, 2000, Shingo Yamaguchi
Examiner: Thierry L. Pham, GAU 2624
Docket No. 49986-0503

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if the Examiner believes that such contact would be helpful in furthering the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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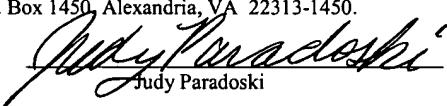
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on July 13, 2005


Judy Paradoski